

Find the City of Mountain View's
Recycling Resource, and the
Recreation Guide inside this issue of

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THE VIEW

FALL 2010 • VOL. 18, NO. 1



The newsletter for the City of Mountain View



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Report enclosed with
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HIGH-SPEED RAIL UPDATE

The City Council continues to work with the State of California on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a new 800-mile high-speed rail system that will stretch from Sacramento to San Diego via the Bay Area. In June, the Council voted to strongly recommend to the California High Speed Rail Authority a below grade (trench) design alternative along the Caltrain corridor in Mountain View.

In November 2008, California voters approved a \$9.95 billion bond measure to finance the environmental clearance, preliminary engineering design, right-of-way acquisitions and partial construction of an 800-mile high-speed rail system. The California High Speed Rail Authority began work on the project level EIR for the San Francisco to San Jose section of the High-Speed Rail project in January 2009.

The Draft EIR is scheduled to be released in early 2011 and the Final EIR should be completed by the end of 2011. For more information, call the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.



GENERAL PLAN PROCESS UPDATE



Throughout the summer, the City continued work on updating the General Plan, a long-range policy document that will be used to guide the future in Mountain View. Two public meetings were held to present the community with emerging policy themes that will help shape the document and gather further community input.

In the weeks ahead, draft policy materials for the General Plan will be reviewed by City boards, commissions and committees. Following these reviews, drafts will be reviewed by the City Council, the Environmental Planning Commission and/or the General Plan Project Advisory Committee. A draft General Plan and

draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will then be prepared for community review in 2011.

The General Plan will include goals and policies in areas such as land use, transportation, conservation, safety, health, and community services. Community input is welcomed and anyone interested in participating in the process or receiving more information should contact the Community Development Department at (650) 903-6306 or visit www.mountainview2030.com.

CITY BUDGET UPDATE

BALANCED BUDGET ACHIEVED

After a yearlong effort, encompassing over a dozen public meetings, the goal of adopting a structurally balanced General Operating Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11 was achieved with action on the final budget by the City Council in June.

Just as is the case with all levels of government throughout the country, the City has needed to adjust to the impact of the "great recession" of the last two years. Revenues to the City's General Fund (GF), the provider of most City services, is very dependent on the performance of the overall economy. With the significant economic changes that the country has experienced, key City revenues including sales tax and property tax have been negatively impacted. The City has been required to take decisive actions over the last two budget years in order to keep Mountain View fiscally stable. The ability to achieve a completely structurally balanced General Operating Fund (GOF) budget (not relying on reserves or other "one time" strategies) is an important accomplishment that has eluded many other local governments. Additionally, aggressive expenditure management eliminated the need to use reserves to balance the recently concluded Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget even though a \$1.6 million deficit had been projected at the time of budget adoption in June of 2009.

Achieving a balanced budget required the City Council to make some difficult choices, but the ability to maintain the City's financial stability was the highest priority. After months of effort, a "four prong strategy" was developed to erase a projected \$4.6 million deficit for the current fiscal year (that commenced on July 1st). A combination of: 1) Operational

It is the City of Mountain View's goal, especially in the current economic environment to keep residents informed about the budget process, how the City is financed and its relationship to City services. With this edition of *The View* newsletter, the City provides a review of the budgeting challenges the City confronted over the last year to develop a structurally balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11, and notes how the City is proactively working to address longer-term budget considerations.

Efficiencies (\$ 1.3 million); 2) Compensation Cost Containment (\$800,000 General Operating Fund; \$1.0 million for all funds); 3) Increased cost recovery for fee based services (\$ 1.0 million); and 4) Expenditure Reductions (\$1.5 million) allowed the goal of a balanced budget to be achieved. Among the primary objectives associated with this strategy was maintaining the City's financial stability while minimizing negative impacts on residents, customers and employees.

A total of 30 FTE positions (4.8% of the City's workforce) were unfunded or eliminated over the last two fiscal years (15 FTE's in the recently adopted budget). This is in addition to 66.25 FTE positions that were eliminated in response to the technology sector recession in the early to mid 2000s. The City has relied on increased operating efficiencies and technology enhancements to maintain service levels to the greatest extent possible with these significant staffing reductions.

Even though a projected balanced budget has been achieved, the City will need to continue to take action to address mid and long-term challenges to the City's financial health. Immediately after budget adoption, work began on the development of "Mid/Long-Term Budget Strategies" to help the City to maintain fiscal

(continued on page 2)

MODERNIZATION OF THE CITY'S UTILITY USERS TAX (UUT)

On November 2, 2010, the voters in the City of Mountain View will have the opportunity to vote on an update to the City's existing Utility Users Tax (UUT). A brief primer is provided below to explain the measure (Measure T on the ballot, and you can consult your Voter Guide and the City's website for further information).

- The City of Mountain View adopted its utility user's tax 40 years ago. At that time communication technology was much simpler.

- Communication technology has advanced, and the City needs to amend the UUT to clarify what services are subject to the tax and ensure that all taxpayers are treated equally regardless of the technology used for telecommunication. These changes will also incorporate changes in Federal law. The tax does not include Internet access or video programming services, Email, or digital downloads such as books, music or ringtones.

- Revenue from the UUT helps fund vital City services like police and fire, emergency medical response, library programs, and maintenance of parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields. All businesses and residents of Mountain View pay the tax, meaning that everyone contributes their fair share for City services.

- It is important to note that a "yes" vote on the measure will not change your tax rates. It will modernize the UUT to include new communication technologies and reflect changes in Federal law.

NEWS FOR YOU

CITY BUDGET (continued from page 1)

stability over the long-term. The City Council will have further discussions of these strategies this fall.

A key component of these strategies is the protection of current revenues. Unlike many other local governments, an increase in local taxes has not been part of our approach to balancing the City's budget for over 15 years. However, current revenues need to be preserved in order to maintain service levels to the

FY 2010-11 TOTAL ADOPTED BUDGET (ALL FUNDS)	REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
GENERAL FUND:		
General Operating Fund (GOF):	\$ 87,649	\$90,253
Building Services:	\$ 3,194	\$ 3,579
Shoreline Golf Links:	\$ 3,205	\$ 4,018
General Fund Reserves:	\$ 6,098	\$ 21,219
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS:	\$ 42,379	\$ 40,338
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS (excl. CIP):	\$ 387	\$ 1,123
ENTERPRISE (UTILITY) FUNDS:	\$ 46,001	\$ 48,728
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS:	\$ 13,898	\$ 14,736
TOTAL ALL FUNDS:	\$ 202,811	\$223,994*
(Dollars in Thousands)		
*Includes funding for projects that has been set aside in prior years		

greatest extent possible. An accompanying article explains a proposed update to the telecommunications portion of the City's Utility Users Tax that will protect this existing revenue stream that accounts for \$1.9 million of annual General Operating Fund revenues that fund vitally needed services (see cover page).

COUNCIL SETS FY 2010-11 GOALS

As part of its annual goal-setting and budgetary processes, the City Council adopted these goals for the 2010-11 Fiscal Year:

- Continue to implement the elements of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, and seek additional funding opportunities and partnerships to promote and implement short- and long-term environmental sustainability initiatives in the residential/business sectors of the community.
- Maintain constructive activities for youth (including after-school activities, summer school, Teen Center programs and expanded support center activities) with emphasis on accessible school and neighborhood-based programs and increase collaboration with school districts and nonprofits to provide expanded after-school programs.
- Develop a Youth Master Plan.
- Assess the Rengstorff Avenue and California Street neighborhood to look at the state of walkability and lighting safety, park use (and pedestrian access) for families and the existing Community Center.
- Consider an extension to the Downtown Revitalization District for one year or a potentially longer term (or develop a plan for the expiration of the District as appropriate depending on the outcome of considering an extension).
- Develop an Information Technology Strategic Plan, focusing on the needs of the community/residents in their web-based interactions with City Hall.

For more information, call the City Manager's Office at (650) 903-6301.

CITY'S 2009 WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

Copies of the City of Mountain View 2009 *Consumer Confidence Report*, or Water Quality Report, are now available at Mountain View City Hall, Library, Community Center and Senior Center. The report provides information regarding the City's water sources, regulatory standards, water quality test results and general information about the City's water operation. Mountain View water complies with all State and Federal health and quality standards and public health goals.

You can also request a copy of the report from the Public Services Division by calling (650) 903-6329 or you can download a copy at <http://www.mountainview.gov/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=169&TargetID=1>.

In addition to the General Operating Fund, budgets for other key City services including water delivery, wastewater treatment and solid waste/recycling services were also adopted. Funding was also provided for capital improvement projects (see story below) to protect and enhance the City's quality of life.

Be assured that the City Council and City staff are committed to continuing our efforts to maintain the City's financial stability while providing quality services and facilities to the greatest extent possible.

For more information, there are variety of ways you can stay informed about the City's budget process over the last year and into the future (some do require Internet or cable TV access):

- Send an Email to citybudgetinfo@mountainview.gov
- Subscribe to budget Email notifications on-line on the City's website at www.mountainview.gov
- Access the new on-line service "Ask Mountain View" and request budget updates
- Contact the City Manager's Office at (650) 903-6301 with comments or questions
- Check-out *The View*, the City's newsletter, by mail, on-line or it is available at City facilities
- Tune-in to the cable broadcast of scheduled budget meetings on KMVT-26 or
- Download webcasts of City Council or special budget presentations anytime online at www.mountainview.gov

FY 2010-11 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City's adopted budget also includes \$17.8 million to fund capital improvement and maintenance projects, including:

- Construction of new athletic fields in the City's North Bayshore Area.
- Access improvements for the Stevens Creek Trail on the north side of El Camino Real.
- Landscaping improvements along the Stevens Creek Trail south of El Camino Real.
- Adding air conditioning to the public areas (auditorium, classrooms and lobby) at the Community Center.
- Reconstruction of San Luis Avenue.
- Street resurfacing and slurry sealing projects to preserve and extend the life of City streets.
- Scheduled replacement of existing water mains and service lines at the end of their expected life.
- Improvements/repairs to the City's wastewater collection and pumping system.

For additional information, contact the Finance and Administrative Services Department at (650) 903-6316.

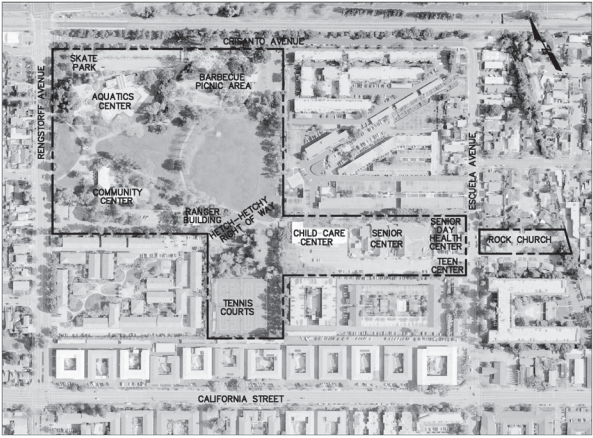
See more "NEWS FOR YOU" on page 6

CONSOLIDATED PLAN SETS PRIORITIES

The City Council approved a new Consolidated Plan last April to determine priorities for the use of the Federal funds that are distributed to Mountain View through the Community Development Block Grant program and HOME program. Both programs are designed to benefit low-income households in the community.

This past winter and spring, the City held a number of public hearings to gather input from community members that was used to develop goals and strategies for using the Federal monies. Activities that may be funded under the Consolidated Plan include construction of affordable housing, public improvements that serve disabled persons, and programs that provide basic needs such as healthcare, shelter for the homeless, and support services for seniors and youth.

For more information about the Plan and to learn about applying for funding, contact Regina Adams in the Community Development Department at (650) 903-6379 or regina.adams@mountainview.gov.



NEW MASTER PLAN FOR RENGSTORFF PARK

This fall, the City will hold two community meetings to gather public input for the development of the Rengstorff Park Master Plan. The Plan will guide the future development of Rengstorff Park, including the location and design of major features in the park. The meetings will focus on gathering ideas and comments from surrounding neighbors and general users of the park. Both meetings will establish goals and priorities for the park. Following these meetings, the City will hold a public meeting to review the draft Master Plan.

One of Mountain View's largest recreation facilities, Rengstorff Park covers more than 27 acres of land bounded by Rengstorff Avenue to the west, Crisanto Avenue to the north, and Escuela Avenue to the east. The Park is home to five major community facilities of varying ages, including the Aquatics Center (1959) and Community Center (1964), Avenidas Senior Day Health-Care Center (2005) and Senior Center (2006), and the Child Care Center (2008). The park also includes a barbecue/picnic area; a large turf area suitable for informal softball and soccer; a skate park; basketball, volleyball and tennis courts; a tot lot, and the Teen Center facility.

In addition to the construction of the Senior Center, Health-Care Center and Child Care Center, capital investments in the park over the last five years have totaled more than \$1 million, including renovations at the Community Center and improvements in the Aquatics Center. The City has also recently acquired new property in the area for possible future use.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.



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The View is available on the City's website.

Extra Copies
A limited supply of extra copies of **The View** is available at City Hall, 500 Castro Street, the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, and the Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue.

The View is printed on 30 percent recycled paper. ♻️

City Mission Statement
The City of Mountain View provides quality services and facilities that meet the needs of a caring and diverse community in a financially responsible manner.

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

The City is currently working on the development of two new neighborhood parks, small parcels of land designed to provide play, picnic areas and green space, to residential neighborhoods. Public meetings have been held to gather neighborhood input about features to include in each park and the City's landscape architects have developed conceptual plans for each based on those suggestions.

DEL MEDIO AREA PARK

This 0.35-acre site is located on Del Medio Avenue between Miller Avenue and California Street. The final Del Medio Park Conceptual Plan was approved by the City Council in June and work is underway on the construction drawings. Construction is slated to begin in Spring 2011.

MARIPOSA AREA PARK

The Mariposa park site is on 0.6 acres located on Mariposa Avenue, between Villa Street and California Street, with a secondary access point at the end of West Dana Street near Pettis Avenue. A public meeting to develop a final conceptual plan for the park was held in July.

For more information, call Anne Marie Starr at (650) 903-6311 or E-mail annemarie.starr@mountainview.gov.

SHORELINE SPORTS FIELDS UPDATE

The City Council has selected a 12-acre site within Shoreline at Mountain View for development of a new sports complex designed to provide additional athletic fields and increased recreational opportunities for residents. The site for the project is located adjacent to the golf course and is currently used for storage of maintenance materials.

The new facility may include multipurpose synthetic turf fields, night lighting, a concessions building with restrooms, parking and an area set aside for wildlife habitat.

Community meetings for public input will be held later this year. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.



SIGN UP FOR THE EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM

Sign up now for Santa Clara County's new Alert and Warning Call Out System that enables officials to notify residents of large-scale emergencies, such as earthquakes, fires, crimes, hazardous material spills and infectious diseases by calling their landline and cell phone and sending text messages and E-mail.

Currently, the County has the landline number for most county residents in its database. In order to make the system more effective, the County is asking residents to register their cell phone numbers and E-mail addresses, and to check to see if their landline is listed by going to www.alertscc.com. For more information about the new system, call the Office of Emergency Services at (650) 903-6825.

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

The City is continuing work on the following residential projects.

SAN ANTONIO CENTER REVITALIZATION

In May, the City Council reviewed plans by developer Merlone Geier for a mixed-use retail and residential project on 16.3 acres of the 57-acre San Antonio Shopping Center site, located at 455 San Antonio Road. The Council asked the developer to create a conceptual master plan for the entire center. The Council is expected to review the master plan at a study session on September 7.

MAYFIELD SITE

The City Council is expected to consider revised plans by Summit Partners and Lyon Homes for the development of housing on the former Mayfield Mall/Hewlett

FIRE STATION 5 UPDATE

In June, the City Council took the final steps to approve construction of a new 10,000 sq. ft. building for Fire Station 5, located at the corner of North Shoreline Boulevard and Crittenden Lane.



The new building will replace the temporary station that has been housed in modular buildings on the site since 1999. Work on the new Fire Station began this summer. Due to the current economic climate, the City expects to save more than \$3 million of the original estimated cost.

The new station will feature a traditional brick exterior. It has been designed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) Silver standard, which requires water and energy conservation measures, storm water treatment, and other sustainable features. The state-of-the-art building will house several newly purchased fire engines and provide space for dorms, a living area, and office space.

Construction should be complete by March 2012. For additional information, contact Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311.



HANGAR ONE UPDATE

The Navy has begun remediation work on the interior of Hangar One at Moffett Field, an important historical landmark owned by NASA-Ames. In spring of 2011, the Navy will begin removing the exterior siding of the building. Last year NASA and the Navy agreed the Navy would be responsible for remediation of the hangar, including removing the siding, and NASA would be responsible for re-siding the hangar and for its reuse.

Currently, there is no plan or funding in place for reuse of the hangar, although a bill has been introduced into Congress that would fund a small portion of the residing costs. NASA will consult with community members on efforts to preserve historic artifacts within the hangar and plans for reusing the building.

The City continues to advocate for re-siding of the hangar immediately following remediation so the hangar's framework is not left open to the elements. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at (650) 90306301 or visit: www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/home/2008/hangar_index.html.

Packard site. Due to changes in the housing market, the developer will submit lower-density plans than were proposed originally, reducing the overall number of proposed units from 436 to fewer than 300. The project still includes 3.6 acres of public parkland and a pedestrian tunnel under Central Expressway leading to the Caltrain station. City Council action on the revised plans is expected in December 2010.

SOUTH WHISMAN AREA SITE

Regis Homes has submitted an application for the first phase of the development of housing in the South Whisman area. This phase will consist primarily of the proposed street network. City Council action is expected in 2011.



PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN UPDATE

As part of the current update to the City's General Plan, the City Council has authorized the creation of a Pedestrian Master Plan (PMP) for Mountain View. The PMP was prompted by input from the community during the recent visioning process to help plan the City's future. Many residents feel Mountain View is a great walking city and would like to find ways to encourage more pedestrian traffic.

The Pedestrian Master Plan will focus on improving access to transit, connecting sidewalks in employment areas such as the North Bayshore and making it easier to walk to neighborhood retail areas. A coordinated policy on citywide pedestrian improvements and capital projects will result in improved community health, reduced traffic congestion, higher transit usage, greater pedestrian safety and greenhouse gas reduction.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

To ensure that the Pedestrian Master Plan meets the needs of all Mountain View residents, tell us what you think. You can use an interactive map at www.mountainview.gov/pedestrian to indicate intersections where you struggle to cross the street, your favorite route to the park with the kids, or improvements that would make your shopping trips easier.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311 or Email helen.kim@mountainview.gov.



NEW AFFORDABLE FAMILY DEVELOPMENT APPROVED

The City Council has approved the construction of a 51-unit affordable rental housing development in downtown Mountain View. The project will be built on the 1.03-acre City-owned property at the southeast corner of West Evelyn Avenue and Franklin Street. The project developer, ROEM Development Corporation, will lease the property from the City.

More than 15 public meetings have been held during the last two years to provide opportunities for public input. The input received at these meetings helped shape the project design, which consists of a three to four story "C" shape building over one level of underground parking.

The 51 rental units will range from one to three bedrooms and will be affordable to households earning 30% to 50% of the Area Median Income (\$32,000 to \$53,000 annual income for a family of 4). The development will include a landscaped courtyard, community room, a homework center and computer room, a fitness room and other amenities.

Of the anticipated \$23 million cost, the City will be providing about \$8.0 million in Federal and local housing funds. Federal tax credits will provide most of the additional funding. Construction could start as early as February 2011.

Families that live or work in Mountain View will be given preference in renting units. The rental application process will start once the project is under construction and close to completion. For additional information, contact the Community Development Department at (650) 903-6379.

You can register
for Recreation classes
on line by visiting [http://
online.activenetwork.com/
mvrecreation](http://online.activenetwork.com/mvrecreation).



LIBRARY READING DAY 2010

You are invited to join the celebration of Reading Day on Saturday, November 20 at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street. Reading Day activities will run from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will include clowns, storytelling, crafts and more. All activities are free.

Community members will read stories aloud to children and their families in English, Spanish and Chinese. Notable readers will include Graham Middle School students and Mountain View Firefighters and Police Officers.

Also, enjoy the Friends of the Mountain View Library “Mega Book Sale” on Saturday, November 13 and Sunday, November 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free parking is available at the Library, under City Hall and at the Mountain Bay Plaza lot located at the corner of Mercy and Bryant Streets. For more information, call the Mountain View Library at (650) 903-6337.

LIBRARY OFFERS JOB RESOURCES

The Mountain View Public Library offers free access to on-line databases (at home or in the library) that can help you look for jobs, learn about careers and find out about local businesses. Databases include:

- Rich’s Business Directories, a nationwide database of high-tech, biotechnology, life sciences, medical device, pharmaceutical and drug discovery companies that can be searched by location, company size, and type of company.
- Career Transitions, providing information on a wide range of industries, career aptitude tests, and help in designing your resume.
- Learning Express, offering practice exams for the SAT, TOEFL, ASVAB and GED and practice tests for those wishing to work as a real estate agent, plumber, electrician, and in law enforcement. The results are assessed so that you can continue studying and take the practice exam again.

LIBRARY ONLINE RESOURCES

Check out the variety of online resources offered by the Mountain View Public Library, including:

- Overdrive, offering downloadable eBooks.
- Gale Biography Resource Center and Gale Kids Info Bits, designed for research and homework help.

You can access all these and more at: www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/library/default.asp.



MOUNTAIN VIEW READS TOGETHER

Persepolis by Mariane Satrapi has been selected for this year’s Mountain View Reads Together program, which brings together community members and representatives of local agencies and organizations to read and discuss the same book.

The critically acclaimed graphic novel is the autobiographical tale of coming-of-age during the Iranian Revolution. Mountain View Reads Together will feature events and activities throughout the month of November that will explore the themes and art of the book.

For more information, call the Mountain View Library at (650) 903-6337.



OCTOBER IS ARTS MONTH

Everyone is invited to join in the fun of National Arts and Humanities Month in Mountain View. Activities and entertainment presented during October are sponsored by the City of Mountain View and a host of local arts organizations, including a grant from the Arts Council of Silicon Valley.

Sunday Arts Live: Sunday, October 3 at 1:30 p.m., SecondStage, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. “A Multicultural Celebration,” featuring African drums, Filipino dance, classical guitar, Mexican folkloric dance, Hawaiian dance, and films produced by students at Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts & Technology.

Sunday Arts Live: Sunday October 17 at 2:00 p.m., Tateuchi Hall at the Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle. Piano and chamber music concert with pianist Patricia Cheng.

Arts Challenge: By writing about arts experiences and/or filling in a coloring page, both adults and children can become eligible for prizes provided by local arts organizations. Entry forms will be available at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts and downloadable from www.artsaction21.org.

For more information, go to www.artsaction21.org.



YOUTH ACTION PLAN

Building on the City Council’s goals for youth, the City is updating its Youth Action Plan to serve as a guide to future youth programs. The Plan will define a common philosophy and vision for youth programs and services citywide. The Youth Action Plan development process includes input from the City Council, City staff, and local youth organizations.

The draft Vision Statement for the Youth Action Plan reads:

Mountain View is a safe, diverse community that respects its youth and nurtures, educates and encourages them to be responsible, civically engaged and prepared for the future.

The draft goals for the Plan are to:

- Offer programs, services and referrals to community resources to support parents and caregivers in building strong families;
- Provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for youth so they will make a difference in their community and develop skills for a viable future;
- Encourage collaboration among City staff, thereby increasing the effectiveness and public awareness of youth services;
- Continue to work collaboratively with community-based organizations and schools to foster productive relationships that benefit youth;
- Provide programs and resources that engage youth, support education, foster independence and foster an interest in lifelong learning;
- Provide City staff as role models who offer guidance in life-skills;
- Promote healthy living by providing resources, programs and facilities that support healthy eating, active lifestyles, emotional wellness and strategies for coping with stress, and
- Prevent violence against youth by supporting programs that emphasize awareness and education about personal safety, and positive inter-personal relationships.

For more information, contact the Youth Resources Manager at (650) 903-6301.



There is fun to be had right here
in Mountain View this spring and
summer—for all ages. Community
activities abound for any interest!

Check out the Recreation Guide inside this issue of *the View* to register for spring and summer classes and activities.



TWO POLICE OFFICERS HONORED

The Mountain View Police Department recently presented its Distinguished Service Medal to Sergeant Dale Messimer and Officer Scott Thomas for their service in the line of duty. Dale has been with the Department 23 years and Scott has been with the Department 13 years. The

award cites both men for bravery in the performance of duty under complicated and hazardous conditions.



VALUING OUR PARKS

The Mountain View Community Services Department is part of a statewide campaign to celebrate the value of parks and recreational facilities titled “Parks Make Life Better!” A recent survey by the California Park & Recreation Society, a nonprofit and professional organization, shows that 98% of Californians use parks and recreation services, and had visited a park during the previous year.

The study found that Californians believe parks provide:

- Access to the serenity and inspiration of nature;
- Outdoor space to play and exercise;
- Facilities for self-directed and organized recreation;
- Positive alternatives for youth which help lower crime and mischief, and
- Activities that facilitate social connections, human development, therapy, the arts and lifelong learning.

For more information on the “Parks Make Life Better!” campaign and Mountain View’s wide range of recreation programs, call the Recreation Office at (650) 903-6331.

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**
.....
City of Mountain View
Community Services Department



WELLNESS FESTIVAL 2010

On September 26, the City and El Camino YMCA will host the second annual MoVe to Wellness Festival in Rengstorff Park from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Enjoy exercise demonstrations, including line dancing, martial arts, and zumba. Dozens of local agencies will offer free information on healthy eating and physical activity ideas. The California Health Insurance program will enroll qualified families in the Healthy Kids/Healthy Families insurance program. Learn more about taking advantage of the community’s great resources, including parks, open space and trails.

For more information, call the Recreation Division at (650) 903-6331.



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2010

The 15th annual Mayor’s Youth Conference is slated for November 4 from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. Over one hundred high school students from Saint Francis High School, Mountain View Academy, Los Altos High School and Mountain View High School have been invited to join local civic leaders to discuss how to build life skills.

“Handbook to the Real World” is the theme of this year’s event, and topics for workshops during the conference include managing stress, eating right, getting enough sleep and having healthy relationships.

Young people from the Mountain View area are invited by the City’s Mayor each year as part of an effort to help develop future leaders for our community.

For more information, call the Youth Resources Manager at (650) 903-6301.

UPCOMING RENGSTORFF HOUSE EVENTS

Visit Mountain View’s historic Rengstorff House, located at 3070 N. Shoreline Boulevard, to learn more about the city’s early settlers and the area’s history. The venue also hosts a variety of exhibits and events. For additional information about Rengstorff House tours, events or rentals, call (650) 903-6392.



Introduction to Genealogy, September 5 – 29

Victorian Mysteries, Ghost Stories & Ravens, October 3 – 31

Living History Day, Sunday, October 3 from 12 p.m. noon – 3:00 p.m. Learn about the fads and fashions of the Victorian era. Also enjoy a nature hike. Free and open to the public.

Holiday Open House at Rengstorff House, Tuesday, December 7, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Enjoy Rengstorff House dressed in holiday finery. Join in singing of Christmas carols while nibbling on a festive array of goodies.

SENIOR HEALTH SERVICES

The Avenidas Rose Kleiner Senior Day Health Center, located at 270 Escuela Avenue, provides activities for seniors, including crafts, lectures, and physical and occupational therapies. The facility operates Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Activities fees are either subsidized or assessed on a sliding scale. Partial funding comes from the City of Mountain View’s Community Development Block Grant fund. For more information, call (650) 289-5499.

SENIOR HOME REPAIR SERVICES

The Avenidas Minor Home Repair and Home Access Program offers free minor home repair and small-scale accessibility modifications for income eligible seniors and low income Mountain View households. Partial funding comes from the City of Mountain View’s Community Development Block Grant Fund. For more information, call (650) 289-5425.

CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROGRAM – CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY!

The City of Mountain View's Volunteer Services Program gives you the opportunity to turn your special talents and abilities into positive action. For more information, call Tyler Phillips, Coordinator of Volunteer Services, at (650) 903-6607 or go to the City website at www.mountainview.gov to download a volunteer application.

CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Center for Performing Arts - Ushers – Volunteers are needed to assist patrons at scheduled performances. The next usher training will be held Monday, September 13th and Monday, September 20th, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Center. No pre-registration required. Volunteers must attend both sessions. For more information, contact Liz Nelson at (650) 903-6568 or Email: Liz@mvcpa.com.



Center for the Performing Arts - Docents – Volunteers are needed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to open the lobby from noon to 1:00 p.m. so the public can view the art. For more information, contact Liz Nelson at (650) 903-6568 or Email: Liz@mvcpa.com.

Senior Services – Front desk – Volunteers are needed to help run our front desk on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Duties include answering the phone, making appointments, money handling, providing customer service and making friends. For more information, contact the Senior Center at (650) 903-6330 or Email: seniorcenter@mountainview.gov.



seniorcenter@mountainview.gov.

Senior Services - Computer Lab – Assist seniors in the technology center, open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For more information, contact Megan Garverick at 650-903-6448 or Email: megan.garverick@mountainview.gov.

Deer Hollow Farm - School Year Teaching Docents - Volunteers are needed to teach small groups of elementary school children about the farm, garden, and Native

“I really wanted to be a Leader in Training with the Busy Bees summer camp. As a Leader-in-Training, I have leaned how to be helpful and open to everyone. I have also learned how to be positive with children. I have been more patient with everyone around me.”

**– Amritha Jayasankar,
Youth Volunteer, Leader in Training
Program, in the Recreation Division**

American studies. Training is provided and no experience is necessary. School year classes are held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. Training and curriculum are provided. For more information, contact Deer Hollow Farm at (650) 903-6430 or Email: dhfarms@mountainview.gov.

Community Outreach Program – Volunteers who are bilingual in English and Chinese (Cantonese or Mandarin) are needed to assist staff with distributing information about City services to the community at various fairs and events. Events occur on weekends requiring a 2 to 4 hour commitment and training is provided. For

**VOLUNTEER SERVICES –
KEEPING CITIZENS CONNECTED,
KEEPS COMMUNITIES
STRONG!**

more information, contact Blanca Cinco at (650) 903-6145 or Email: blanca.cinco@mountainview.gov.

Shoreline at Mountain View – Shoreline Park seeks friendly volunteer docents 18 years and older for the following jobs:

Patrol Rangers assist Shoreline at Mountain View and Stevens Creek Trail users by providing information regarding routes, park facilities, safety and by keeping trails free of litter.

Gatehouse Attendants greet visitors, monitor activities and educate the public about Shoreline at Mountain View, the 750 acre wildlife and recreation resource area.

Environmental Docents educate members of the public on the area's unique history, diverse species and baylands ecosystem by providing one-hour docent-led walks.

Garden Volunteers help maintain the Rengstorff House flowerbeds, provide arranged flowers for the interior of the house and answer visitors' inquiries. Weekday availability preferred.

Rengstorff House Docents conduct guided tours of the Rengstorff House and lead educational programs exploring Mountain View's early history. Rengstorff House docents may also provide special tours and activities for school/scout groups, senior centers, and special events.

Exhibitions Assistants provide hands-on support for the installation and removal/storage of artwork and exhibition items at Rengstorff House. They may also collaborate with staff on exhibitions strategy, research and preparation.

For additional information, please contact Kristina Rockhold at (650) 903-6073 or Email: kristina.rockhold@mountainview.gov.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Halloween Family – Special Event - Volunteers are needed to assist with arts, crafts, entertainment, food booths, decorations and more. The event date is Saturday, October 30, 2010, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Rengstorff Park. For more information, call the Volunteer Services Office at (650) 903-6607.

These are just a few ways that you can get involved with the City of Mountain View's Volunteer Program. If you have an idea or talent to offer, or want to join our team, call the Volunteer Services Office today at (650) 903-6607.

NEWS FOR YOU *continued*

ENERGY AND MONEY SAVING TIPS FOR THE COOL FALL

Here are several easy, cost-effective, and 'green' ways to save money on your utility bills.

1. Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 120°F from the default temperature of 140°F and save up to \$460 annually.

2. Replace the light bulb in your desk lamp with an ENERGY STAR qualified bulb. It will last up to 10 times longer, use about 75% less energy, and save you up to \$65 a year on your energy bill.

3. A programmable thermostat, set and used properly, can save about \$180 each year.

4. Did you know that 75% of the electricity used to power electronics (e.g. DVRs, video games, computers, monitors) in the average home is consumed while the devices are turned off? To stop this "leaking" energy, plug your devices into a power strip and when you're not using them switch the power strip off.

5. Modern refrigerators use about half the energy of those built just 10 years ago, and can save you up to 10% or \$190 per year on your energy bill. Be sure to choose an ENERGY STAR model.

6. Installing a new 2.5 gallon-per-minute (or less) low-flow shower head can save you up to \$145 each year in

energy and water costs.

7. Washing full loads of laundry instead of partial loads can save more than 3,400 gallons of water each year and reduce your energy costs.

8. Avoid using a screensaver when your computer monitor is not active. Let the monitor switch to "sleep" mode or turn the monitor off instead.

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY IN AN EMERGENCY

Join a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) by signing up for free training through the City's Office of Emergency Services. CERT team training prepares local residents to help themselves, their families and neighbors in the event of a disaster. The training covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services may not be available.

CERT members receive training in earthquake awareness, disaster fire suppression techniques, disaster medical operations, first aid, light search and rescue, as well as team organization and management. All classes are taught by trained emergency personnel, including firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, with an emphasis on hands-on practice. The CERT program is free to all citizens of Mountain View and those

who work at a Mountain View business. The training is provided in English, as well as other languages, including Spanish.

For more information and to register, call the Office of Emergency Services at (650) 903-6825, or use the "Register Online" link at: www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/fire/programs_n_services/disaster_preparedness.asp.

FIRE SPRINKLERS IN ALL NEW HOMES BEGINNING IN 2011

The State of California has adopted a new residential building code, which requires that all new one- and two-family homes and townhouses built in the state be equipped with life-saving sprinkler systems beginning January 1, 2011. About 85% of all fires occur in houses and many are fueled by new "lightweight" construction and more flammable home contents. The time to escape a house fire has dwindled from 17 minutes 20 years ago to three minutes today.

The best protection from a fire is having both working smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system and all families should have and practice an emergency escape plan. For more information on how your family can be fire safe visit www.NFPA.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*CALENDAR OF REGULAR COUNCIL, BOARD, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION MEETINGS:

- City Council** – Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Castro Street.
- Library Board** – Meets the third Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Library Conference Room, Library, 585 Franklin Street.
- Environmental Planning Commission** – Meets the first and third Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Castro Street.
- Human Relations Commission** – Meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street.
- Parks and Recreation Commission** – Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue.
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee** – Meets the last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street.
- Downtown Committee** – Meets as needed on a Tuesday morning.
- Performing Arts Committee** – Meets the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., SecondStage, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro Street.
- Visual Arts Committee** – Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Atrium Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street.
- Youth Advisory Committee** – Meets the first Monday of the month, 4:30 p.m., Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue.
- Senior Advisory Committee** – Meets the third Wednesday of the month, 2 p.m. Senior Center, 266 Escuela.

*All dates and locations are subject to change.

Check out the website, KMTV, or contact the City Clerk's Office at (650) 903-6304 to confirm dates and times.

ASK MOUNTAIN VIEW: GET THE ANSWERS YOU NEED

Last November, the City introduced Ask Mountain View, a new on-line service that provides 24-hour access to residents to quickly and easily concerns or compliments service provides a list of that messages can be routed to help ensure a speedy response hours. Citizens can Email, phone, or postal Thousands of users have benefits of the new Ask



City Hall by allowing residents to Email staff with questions, via the City's website. The topic area designations so to the proper department reply during normal business hours also track the status of their mail inquiries on-line. already enjoyed a variety of Mountain View system.

Now citizens can use their iPhones to point, click, and send a message to City Hall quickly by using a new, free Ask Mountain View iPhone application. Requests and feedback are routed directly into the Ask Mountain View system and users can check the updated status of their requests anytime, anywhere.

You can download the application on-line at the iPhone App Store or on the City's website at www.mountainview.gov. In the future, the City expects other smart phone platforms will offer similar applications. For more information, call the City Manager's Office at (650) 903-6210 or (650) 903-6301, or Email kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Rengstorff Park Master Plan Community Meetings** – Wednesday, September 22 from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. at the Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue, and Friday, September 24 from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue. Interpretive services and childcare will be offered at both meetings.
- Firefighters Pancake Breakfast** - Saturday, September 25 from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Fire Station 4.
- Move to Wellness Festival** - Sunday, September 26 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Rengstorff Park.
- Halloween Monster Bash** – Saturday, October 30 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Mountain View Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue.
- Senior Center Annual Holiday Bazaar** – Saturday, November 20, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue.
- Mountain View Tree Lighting Ceremony** – Monday, December 6, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro Street. Free live holiday music, refreshments, lights and pictures with Santa Claus. Bring a can of food to help build the Giving Tree, which benefits the Mountain View Community Services Agency. For more information, call the Recreation Division at (650) 903-6331.
- Cops That Care Toy Distribution Event** – Saturday, December 18, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 1000 Villa Street.

CITY BOARD, COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS

Applications will be accepted until September 17, 2010 for Mountain View citizens wishing to serve on one of the following City board, commissions or committees:

- LIBRARY BOARD (2 positions)
(Meets on the third Monday evening of the month)
- ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMISSION (2 positions)
- *See note below for required questionnaire
(Meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of the month)
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (3 positions)
(Meets on the first Thursday evening of the month)
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (1 position)
(Meets on the second Wednesday evening of the month)
- BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1 position)
(Meets on the last Wednesday of the month)
- DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE
 - Downtown Property and Business Owner Category (2 positions)
 - Business-at-Large (3 positions)
 - Community-at-Large (1 position)
(Meets as needed on a Tuesday morning)
- PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE (3 positions)
(Meets on the third Wednesday of the month)

There may be incumbents who wish to be reappointed. The board, commissions and committees are volunteer positions and serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council. Appointments are available on an equal opportunity basis. Call the City Clerk's Office at (650) 903-6304 for further information and an application. An application can be downloaded at www.mountainview.gov.

*FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMISSION APPLICANTS ONLY:

Supplemental Questionnaire (Preinterview Application): Candidates are required to submit, along with their City application form, a typewritten response, limited to 350 words, to the following questions:

- What qualifies you for this position?
- What do you think are the major issues for land use planning in the City of Mountain View?
- Give some Mountain View examples of successes and failures in planning.

YOUR CONNECTION TO CITY GOVERNMENT

Visit http://mountainview.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2 to:

- Watch City Council meetings live on your computer, laptop, or PDA device
- Access an archive of previous Council meetings and Environmental Planning Commission meetings and view them online

HOME COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS

Saturday, September 11 and Saturday, October 9
Sunnyvale Compost Workshop
10 a.m. – Noon, no charge
Heritage Building
550 E. Remington Drive, Sunnyvale
Call or E-mail for Registration
(408) 730-7262 or www.recycling.insunnyvale.com



City Offices WILL BE CLOSED:

Monday, September 6 for Labor Day
Thursday, November 11 for Veteran's Day
Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF EVENTS

Call (408) 299-7300 for an appointment.

Saturday, September 11 in San Jose
Saturday, September 18 in Sunnyvale
Saturday, September 25 in Santa Clara
Saturday, October 16 in Sunnyvale
Saturday, October 23 in San Jose
Saturday, October 30 in Cupertino
Saturday, November 13 in San Jose
Saturday, November 20 in Sunnyvale
Saturday, December 18 in San Jose

The View newsletter is part of the City's community outreach and information program. Should you have any questions about the latest issue of The View, please call (650) 903-6210 or send an E-mail to: kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov